

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-leaf collimator comprising a first leaf plate driving body provided on a first side of the collimator and a second leaf plate driving body provided on a second side of the collimator, bodies, each the first and second leaf plate driving bodies each including a plurality of movable leaf plates ~~and provided respectively on one side and the other side~~, the plurality of leaf plates of said leaf plate driving body on the first ~~one~~ side and the plurality of leaf plates of said leaf plate driving body on the second ~~other~~ side being disposed in an opposing relation to form an irradiation field of a radiation beam between the opposing leaf plates, wherein:

each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies comprises one rotating device for moving said plurality of leaf plates along one direction by engaging with a gear portion provided respectively at each of said plurality of leaf plates, and a driving force transmitting/cutoff device for transmitting a driving force of said rotating device to said plurality of leaf plates at the same time during a certain period by moving said plurality of gear portions along ~~the other~~ a direction ~~across~~ substantially perpendicular to said one direction and engaging them with said rotating device and cutting off said driving force to a

selected one of said plurality of leaf plates by disengaging said gear portion of said selected leaf plate ~~with~~ from said rotating device.

2. (Currently Amended) A multi-leaf collimator comprising a first leaf plate driving body provided on a first side of the collimator and a second leaf plate driving body provided on a second side of the collimator, bodies, each the first and second leaf plate driving bodies each including a plurality of movable leaf plates ~~and provided respectively on one side and the other side~~, the plurality of leaf plates of said leaf plate driving body on the first ~~one~~ side and the plurality of leaf plates of said leaf plate driving body on the second ~~other~~ side being disposed in an opposing relation to form an irradiation field of a radiation beam between the opposing leaf plates, wherein:

each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies comprises one rotating device for moving said plurality of leaf plates together along one direction during a certain period by engaging with a gear portion provided respectively at each of said plurality of leaf plates, and a plurality of engaging/disengaging devices provided in a one-to-one relation to the plurality of leaf plates for selectively engaging and disengaging a corresponding leaf plate with and from said rotating device by moving said gear portion of said corresponding leaf plate along ~~the other~~ a direction substantially perpendicular ~~to across~~ said one direction.

3. (Currently Amended) A multi-leaf collimator according to Claim 1, wherein each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies further comprises a holding device for abutting against the leaf plates to hold the leaf plates in stationary positions.

4. (Currently Amended) A medical system ~~including an accelerator, the medical system~~ comprising:
an accelerator; and
an irradiator having a collimator through which a radiation beam emitted from said accelerator passes, and irradiating the beam having passed said collimator, wherein:

said collimator comprises a first leaf plate driving body provided on a first side of the collimator and a second leaf plate driving body provided on a second side of the collimator, ~~bodies, each~~ the first and second leaf plate driving bodies each including a plurality of movable leaf plates ~~and provided respectively on one side and the other side~~, the plurality of leaf plates of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies being disposed in an opposing relation to form an irradiation field of the radiation beam between the opposing leaf plates,

each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies comprises one rotating device for moving said plurality of leaf plates along one direction by engaging with a gear portion provided respectively at each of said plurality of leaf plates, and a driving force transmitting/cutoff device for transmitting a driving force of said rotating device to said plurality of leaf plates at the same

time during a certain period by moving said plurality of gear portions along the ~~other~~ a direction across substantially perpendicular to said one direction and engaging them with said rotating device and cutting off said driving force to a selected one of said plurality of leaf plates by disengaging said gear portion of said selected leaf plate from ~~with~~ said rotating device.

5. (Currently Amended) A medical system ~~including an~~
~~accelerator, the medical system~~ comprising:

an accelerator; and

an irradiator having a collimator through which a radiation beam emitted from said accelerator passes, and irradiating the beam having passed said collimator, wherein:

said collimator comprises a first leaf plate driving body provided on a first side of the collimator and a second leaf plate driving body provided on a second side of the collimator, ~~bodies, each~~ the first and second leaf plate driving bodies ~~each~~ including a plurality of movable leaf plates ~~and provided respectively on one side and the other side~~, the plurality of leaf plates of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies being disposed in an opposing relation to form an irradiation field of the radiation beam between the opposing leaf plates,

each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies comprises one rotating device for moving said plurality of leaf plates together along one direction during a certain period by engaging with a gear portion provided respectively at each of said plurality of leaf plates, and a plurality of

engaging/disengaging devices provided in a one-to-one relation to the plurality of leaf plates for selectively engaging and disengaging a corresponding leaf plate with and from said rotating device by moving said gear portion of said corresponding leaf plate along ~~the other~~ a direction across substantially perpendicular to said one direction.

6. (Currently Amended) A medical system ~~including an accelerator~~ according to Claim 4, further comprising a control device for controlling said rotating device and said transmitting/cutoff device.

7. (Currently Amended) A medical system ~~including an accelerator~~ according to Claim 5, further comprising a control device for controlling said rotating device and said engaging/disengaging device.

8. (Currently Amended) A multi-leaf collimator according to Claim 2, wherein each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies further comprises a holding device for abutting against the leaf plates to hold the leaf plates in stationary positions.

9. (Currently Amended) A multi-leaf collimator comprising a first leaf plate driving body provided on a first side of the collimator and a second leaf plate driving body provided on a second side of the collimator, bodies, each the first and second leaf plate driving bodies each including a plurality of movable

leaf plates ~~and provided respectively on one side and the other side~~, the plurality of leaf plates of said leaf plate driving body on the first ~~one~~ side and the plurality of leaf plates of said leaf plate driving body on the second ~~other~~ side being disposed in an opposing relation to form an irradiation field of a radiation beam between the opposing leaf plates, wherein:

each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies comprises one rotating device for moving said plurality of leaf plates together along one direction during a certain period by engaging with a gear portion provided respectively at each of said plurality of leaf plates, a plurality of guide members provided in a one-to-one relation to the plurality of leaf plates for holding said leaf plate slidably along said one direction, and a guide member moving device for moving said guide member along a ~~the other~~ direction ~~across said one direction across~~ substantially perpendicular to said one direction for ~~the purpose of~~ engaging and disengaging said gear portion with and from said rotating device.

10. (Currently Amended) A multi-leaf collimator according to Claim 9, wherein each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies further comprise a holding device for abutting against the leaf plates to hold the leaf plates in stationary positions.

11. (Currently Amended) A multi-leaf collimator comprising a first leaf plate driving body provided on a first side of the collimator and a second leaf

plate driving body provided on a second side of the collimator, bodies, each the first and second leaf plate driving bodies each including a plurality of movable leaf plates ~~and provided respectively on one side and the other side~~, the plurality of leaf plates of said leaf plate driving body on the first ~~one~~ side and the plurality of leaf plates of said leaf plate driving body on the second ~~other~~ side being disposed in an opposing relation to form an irradiation field of a radiation beam between the opposing leaf plates, wherein:

each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies comprises one rotating device for moving said plurality of leaf plates together along one direction during a certain period by engaging with a gear portion provided respectively at each of said plurality of leaf plates,

each of said plurality of leaf plates provided at each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies comprises an expansion/contraction member for expanding and contracting along a the other direction substantially perpendicular to ~~aeross~~ said one direction for ~~the purpose of~~ engaging and disengaging said gear portion with and from said rotating device, and

said gear portion is disposed at said expansion/contraction member.

12. (Currently Amended) A multi-leaf collimator according to Claim 11, wherein each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies further comprises a holding device for abutting against the leaf plates to hold the leaf plates in stationary positions.

13. (Currently Amended) A medical system ~~including an~~
~~accelerator, the medical system~~ comprising:

an accelerator; and

an irradiator having a collimator through which a radiation beam emitted
from said accelerator passes, and irradiating the beam having passed said
collimator, wherein:

said collimator comprises a first leaf plate driving body provided on a first
side of the collimator and a second leaf plate driving body provided on a second
side of the collimator, ~~bodies, each~~ the first and second leaf plate driving bodies
each including a plurality of movable leaf plates ~~and provided respectively on one~~
~~side and the other side~~, the plurality of leaf plates of said first and second leaf
plate driving bodies being disposed in an opposing relation to form an irradiation
field of the radiation beam between the opposing leaf plates,

each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies comprises one
rotating device for moving said plurality of leaf plates together along one
direction during a certain period by engaging with a gear portion provided
respectively at each of said plurality of leaf plates, a plurality of guide members
provided in a one-to-one relation to the plurality of leaf plates for holding said
leaf plate slidably along said one direction, and a guide member moving device
for moving said guide member along a the other direction substantially
perpendicular to ~~across~~ said one direction ~~for the purpose of engaging and~~
disengaging said gear portion with and from said rotating device.

14. (Currently Amended) A medical system ~~including an accelerator~~ according to Claim 13, further comprising a control device for controlling said rotating device and said guide member moving device.

15. (Currently Amended) A medical system ~~including an accelerator, the medical system~~ comprising:

an accelerator; and

an irradiator having a collimator through which a radiation beam emitted from said accelerator passes, and irradiating the beam having passed said collimator, wherein:

said collimator comprises a first leaf plate driving body provided on a first side of the collimator and a second leaf plate driving body provided on a second side of the collimator, bodies, each the first and second leaf plate driving bodies each including a plurality of movable leaf plates and provided respectively on one side and the other side, the plurality of leaf plates of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies being disposed in an opposing relation to form an irradiation field of the radiation beam between the opposing leaf plates,

each of said first and second leaf plate driving bodies comprises one rotating device for moving said plurality of leaf plates together along one direction during a certain period by engaging with a gear portion provided respectively at each of said plurality of leaf plates,

each of said plurality of leaf plates provided at each of said leaf plate driving bodies comprises an expansion/contraction member for expanding and

contracting along ~~the other~~ a direction ~~aeross~~ substantially perpendicular to said one direction for ~~the purpose of~~ engaging and disengaging said gear portion with and from said rotating device, and

said gear portion is disposed at said expansion/contraction member.